



MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS AND STANDARDS

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This supplement expands on the guidance in AFI 48-123, *Medical Examinations and Standards (including Interim Changes)*, 22 May 2001. The supplement establishes medical examination standards for Maintenance Engineering Support Personnel and includes delegation authority for certain examinations.

SUMMARY OF REVISIONS

This supplement adds section A8.13, *Maintenance Engineering Support Personnel*, and modifies table A10.1 by adding footnotes to denote further delegated authority.

AFI 48-123, 22 May 2001, is supplemented as follows:

A8.13. (Added) Maintenance Engineering Support Personnel (MESP).

A8.13.1. The standards listed in attachment 3 and this section are applicable to MESP. Mission Essential Ground Personnel (MEGP) do not require medical clearance and will not perform in-flight duties.

A8.13.1.1. This section applies to all MESP, including civilian and contractor personnel, who are not already on flying status and covered under other sections of this instruction.

A8.13.2. Required documents and acceptability of civilian equivalents include the following.

A8.13.2.1. Military personnel must have a current physical examination or preventive health assessment (PHA) on record.

A8.13.2.2. Civilian personnel who hold a current valid Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) FC 3 or higher medical certificate may be cleared for MESP duties for the lesser of the valid duration of the FAA certificate or one calendar year. Any condition that would disqualify from performance of FAA FC 3 duties should be considered disqualifying from MESP duties.

A8.13.2.3. AF Form 1042, **Medical Recommendation for Flying or Special Operational Duty**, will be issued as satisfactory evidence of qualification.

A8.13.3. The following conditions are disqualifying for MESP duties.

A8.13.3.1. Inability to valsalva.

A8.13.3.2. Current or chronic obstructive ear, nose, throat, sinus or pulmonary disease.

A8.13.3.3. Loss of 200 cc or more blood is disqualifying for at least 72 hours following the loss.

A8.13.3.4. History of sickle cell disease or heterozygous sickling disorders other than sickle cell trait.

A8.13.3.5. Sickle cell trait if there is a history of symptoms associated with sickling disorder. Symptomology attributable to intravascular sickling during decompression in an altitude chamber is also disqualifying.

A8.13.3.6. History of migraine, claustrophobia, organic heart disease, or symptomatic hiatal hernia.

A8.13.3.7. Inguinal hernia.

A8.13.3.8. Pregnancy.

A8.13.3.9. Use of medications or nutritional supplements that may impair mission performance.

A8.13.3.10. Any disease, which in the judgment of the flight surgeon, is likely to limit the performance of duty or place the individual at increased health risk.

A8.13.4. MESP in-flight duty requirements in specific airframes may require additional evaluations.

A8.13.4.1. MESP candidates who will or may fly in ejection seat aircraft must meet height and weight standards in para A8.11.1.

A8.13.4.2. MESP candidates who will or may participate in activities requiring cabin altitudes above 18,000 ft must complete physiologic training IAW para A8.4.2.2 and AFI 11-403, *Aerospace Physiological Training Program*.

A8.13.5. An AF Form 1042 will be issued as satisfactory evidence of qualification as outlined below.

A8.13.5.1. Individuals who do not have current physiological training IAW AFI 11-403 will have annotated on the AF Form 1042, "RESTRICTED TO CABIN ALTITUDES LESS THAN 18,000 FT."

A8.13.5.2. Individuals who will or may fly in ejection seat aircraft, but are not qualified for some or all ejection seat types IAW para A8.11.1 will have specific annotation made: "NOT QUALIFIED FOR FLIGHT IN ____ (list aircraft here) ____."

A8.13.5.3. The duration of clearance annotated on AF Form 1042 shall be as follows.

A8.13.5.3.1. MESP personnel who hold a valid FAA medical certificate - the lesser of the valid duration of the FAA certificate or one calendar year.

A8.13.5.3.2. MESP personnel who hold neither a current FAA certificate nor a flying class III or greater physical examination – 30 days.

A8.13.5.3.3. During the period of medical clearance, MESP candidates must report any change in medical status to the flight surgeon prior to engaging in in-flight activities.

Table A10.1 Note 5. (Added) Waiver authority for USAF Test Pilot School applicants and students, including Flight Test Engineer Candidates/Students, is delegated to the 95MDG/SGP except as noted in para 8.1.3.

Table A10.1. (Added) Waiver authority for MESP is the installation SGP.

GEORGE W. SEIGNIOUS IV, Colonel, USAF
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